(b) whether it is also a fact that the present technologies are expensive and fit for use only in large fields of big farmers; and

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard to make available suitable technologies to small and marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Suitable technologies for small and marginal farmers have already been developed for seed bed preparation, sowing, interculture, earthing, spraying, harvesting, threshing, and cleaning equipment.

Recommendations of NCA

†2629. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Commission for Agriculture has submitted its report to Government recently;

(b) if so, the salient recommendations of the Commission;

(c) whether it is also a fact that inspite of a number of packages announced by Government, suicides by the farmers are still continuing; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Farmers submitted its final Report to the Government in October, 2006. The salient recommendations of the Commission included asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bio-resources, support services like science and technology, inputs and services, credit and insurance, assured and remunerative marketing, social security and curriculum reforms and other initiatives like special category farming, food security etc.

(c) and (d) Government approved a Rehabilitation Package involving an amount of Rs.16978.69 crore for 31 Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala, reporting high number of suicides by farmers. Progress of implementation of rehabilitation package is being monitored and reviewed on a regular basis at District, State and Central level. Feed back received from some of the State Governments regarding implementation of package indicates that it has made positive impact on mitigating the distress of farmers covered by the Rehabilitation Package.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.